India were impounded at various ports in West Germany;

(c) whether the West German Govern-jnent is agreeable to exempt the leather garments treated with pentachlorophenol prior to 23rd December, 1989; and

(d) if so, whether Government have issued any direction to the Central Leather Research Institute to issue certificates to the exporters showing that the leather gar- J ments were treated with pentachlorophenol prior *to* 23rd December, 1989 without high testing charges.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN) : (a) to d) A Decree was issued in the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) on 22-12-1989 banning import of all product, unless otherwise specified under special dispensation, containing Pentachlorophenol (PCP) beyond stipulated limits under Hazardous Sustance Act with effect from 23-3-1990. It is understood that the Federal Health Agency (BGA) in the FRG had evidence that products treated with PCP were in-jurious to health and environment. Upon intervention by the Government of India, the FRG authorities granted dispensation for import of leather & leather products, including leather garments that had been treated with PCP before the date of the Decree. This dispensation was available till 30th June, 1990.

Appropriate measures have been initiated by the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Madras for testing and certification of PCP and for dissemination of information to the exporters. Assistance of FRG authorities has also been sought in regard *to* procurement of testing equipment, specifying testing procedures and training of personnels in testing.

The Council for Leather Exports (CLE), Madras has reported that no hold up of consignment in West Germany has been reported by its members.

Ban on recruitments in State and Central Governments

@3385. PROF. SOURENDRA BHAT-TACHARJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had issued any instructions to the State Governments to *stop* recruitment in all the Departments barring the Health Department and the schools;

(b) whether the ban on appointment to Central Government Departments is con-tinuing; and

(c) in what manner Government pro pose to realise the right to work for all the unemployed in view of the existence of ban on recruitments ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No ban as such was imposed on recruitment to Central Government Departments. As an economy measure, Ministries/Departments of the Government of India were advised in January, 1984, not to fill up existing vacancies. Modified guidelines regarding, filling up of vacancies were issued in May/July, 1986. According to the revised guidelines, sublet to fulfilment of certain conditions, vacancies in Government Departments, both plan and non-plan, arising due to promotion, retirement, death, resignation, dismissal/removal or deputation can now be filled up.

Drilling Machines to combat drought

@@3386. DR. RATNAKAR PAN-DEY: SHRI BEKAL UTSHAI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOUR-CES be pleased to state :

(a) whether powerful drilling machines for drilling deep tube-wells for drinking water have been received from foreign countries to combat drought in the country;

(b) if so, the States to which such machines have been allotted; and

(c) the criteria laid down for the purpose ?

©Previously Unstarred Question No. 2345, transferred from 28th August, 1990.

@@Previously Unstarred Question No. 2783, transferred from 31st August, 1990.